

ISAC Meeting – May 2012

INFORMATION or DECISION POINT ITEM

SPONSORING ISAC MEMBER Suggested as part of the local issues session for the agenda.

PRESENTER'S NAME/AFFILIATION: John Albert John Albert, Water Research Foundation (WaterRF)

TOPIC: **Invasive Algae and Potable Water in the Pacific Northwest**

1. DESCRIPTION OF AGENDA ITEM:

Invasive Algae and Potable Water in the Pacific Northwest. The Water Research Foundation was formed in 1966 and is the only U.S.-based nonprofit (501c3) that sponsors research to help water utilities, public health agencies, and other professionals worldwide providing safe, affordable and plentiful drinking water. Currently, more than 900 subscribers representing drinking water utilities from the U.S. Canada, Australia, England, France, Italy, the Czech Republic, South Korea, and Israel participate in WRF. The WRF has funded a project to produce a clearinghouse of resources to manage and prevent disruptive aquatic species occurrence and mitigate their impacts. Three Pacific Northwest utilities that have been challenged by algal blooms, zooplankton populations, and other invasive aquatic species will be comprehensively studied. The study will also serve as a model on how to foster regional cooperation in confronting challenging issues. Tailored collaboration partners: Everett Public Works Department, Seattle Public Utilities, Tacoma Public Utilities.

<http://www.waterrf.org/Search/Detail.aspx?Type=1&PID=4364&OID=0>

Potential speakers include: John Albert, Sr. Account Manager, Water Research Foundation (WaterRF) or Matt McFadden, HDR Engineering, 500 108th Ave. NE, Suite 1200, Bellevue, WA 98004-5549

2. WHY IS THIS ITEM IMPORTANT TO NISC / ISAC? Although ISAC has looked at invasive marine algae, they have not talked extensively about invasive freshwater forms. ISAC had not had a presentation from the potable water industry before. The WRF is also very active in zebra/quagga muscle activities. The WRF not only works with potable water utilities both domestically and internationally, they also are very involved in irrigation and agricultural issues.

3. HOW DOES THIS ITEM RELATE TO THE 2008 – 2012 NATIONAL INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT PLAN? Several O.C. Performance elements call for the development of models and for the translation of research data into information that is usable for on-the-ground resource managers. For example, Performance Elements within Implementation Task CM. 2.2: Support on-the-ground control and management efforts – calls for the increased technical support for on-the-ground control actions.

4. PREVIOUS ACTIONS TAKEN BY NISC / ISAC ON THIS ITEM: The potential for algae used in biofuels production was included in the ISAC Biofuels Whitepaper.

5. ACTION REQUESTED OF NISC / ISAC: Information only.

6. ALTERNATIVES:

